

The *Library Connection* online newsletter provides the public with information about upcoming events, major programs and other news of the City of San Diego Public Library. Anyone can sign up for this free monthly email announcement by visiting the Library on the City's web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library> and clicking on "News & Events."

FEBRUARY 2005

VOLUME 3

Variety of Events Planned for Black History Month

Film screenings, book discussions, exhibits, an author event, story telling and book readings will highlight the City of San Diego Public Library's special events for Black History Month in February.

"Each year the San Diego Public Library presents important and educational activities during Black History Month that stimulate discussion and increase cultural awareness in our community," said City Library Director Anna Tatár.

Americans have recognized black history annually since 1926, first as "Negro History Week" and later as "Black History Month." The commemoration was launched by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who chose February because it contained the birthdays of both Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.

In addition to special events, the City's 35 libraries have large collections of books and other materials on African American history and works by African American authors. A schedule of events at libraries for Black History Month is available on page 3.

Top right, U.S. Rep. Shirley Chisholm on the campaign trail in 1972; at right, author Ralph Ellison. Both are subjects of documentaries that will be shown at the Central Library.



Small Business Loan Workshops to be Held at Central Library

The Library will host a free small business workshop twice on the same evening; first in English, followed by a session in Spanish.

The English title is "Small Business Micro-Loans and Training through ACCIÓN San Diego: An Introduction to Small Business Lending, Credit, and Finance." The Spanish title is "Préstamos Pequeños para Negocios Pequeños y Entrenamiento a Través de ACCIÓN San Diego: Introducción al Mundo de los Préstamos, el Crédito, y las Finanzas de los Negocios Pequeños."

The workshops will be conducted by Maria Montaña, Directory of Lending at ACCIÓN San Diego. ACCIÓN San Diego specializes in lending to women, minorities and

other groups that traditionally face barriers to obtaining commercial financing. They also offer business counseling, financial planning, credit repair, networking, and referrals. The workshops will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 2, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. (English) and 7:15 to 8 p.m. (Spanish) in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St., in downtown.

All are welcome to come to one or both of the sessions. Reservations are appreciated in order to plan for handouts. For more information or to make reservations, please contact Business Resources & Technology Link at the Social Sciences section of the Central Library at (619) 238-6630 or businesslink@sandiego.gov.

Two Concerts to be Held at Central Library

The Library's free Winter/Spring Concert Series continues with two programs in February.

- On Feb. 13 at 2:30 p.m., the **Shanghai Ensemble** – featuring Lu-Yan Guo, cello and tenor; Zeping Cai, soprano; Fei-Fei Soong, violin; Jifang Shen, piano; Junah Park-Jong, flute; and Harold Reeves, cello – will perform works by Haydn, Dvorak, Chopin, Dussek, Guo and Mouguet.
- On Feb. 27 at 2:30 p.m., the **Gennaro Trio** – featuring Mary Lindblom, viola; Ronald Goldman, violin; and Ilana Mysior, piano – will perform short, complete trios by Hovhaness, Arbos, Furstenthal, Stutschewsky and Dvorak.

Both concerts will be held in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St. 619-236-5800.

Counseling for Small Businesses

The Library will host counseling sessions with SCORE to discuss various business challenges first-time and seasoned small business owners face in a competitive business world. Topics to be covered may include business plans, business start-up, finances, marketing, business expansion and other related topics. Participants will meet with one-on-one with a SCORE executive. The next session is scheduled for Feb. 9 from 6 to 8 p.m. and will be held in the second floor meeting room of the Central Library, 820 E St. The workshops are planned for every other Wednesday through June 29. To register or for more information, contact the Library's Business Resources and Technology Link at 619-238-6630 or businesslink@sandiego.gov.

Opera Preview Presentations at Two Libraries

In preparation of the San Diego Opera's production of "Cosi Fan Tutte" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, the Library will host two preview lectures. The entertaining and illuminating presentations can help you prepare for the production and integrate both background and plot synopses of the repertoire. The opera preview lectures are as follows:

- **Feb. 7** at 7 p.m. with composer Myron Fink at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Branch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive, 858-538-8158.
- **Feb. 15** at 2 p.m. with Dr. Ron Shaheen at the Central Library, 820 E St., 619-236-5800.

Trombone Quartet to Perform at Scripps Ranch

The Pleasure of Your Company chamber concert series will present Velvet Bones, a trombone quartet that will perform on Feb. 20 at 2:30 p.m. at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Branch, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive. The group performs a variety of works, including original pieces. A suggested donation of \$5 is requested. After the performance, there will be a reception for the musicians and the audience. For more information, call 858-538-8158.



Free Films at Libraries



Each month the Library presents a variety of free films, many of which are independent or foreign films not widely distributed. Others are classic and family-friendly movies.

- Feb. 6: "**Ralph Ellison: An American Journey**" (2004) – See story on page 3. Central Library, 2 p.m.
- Feb. 7: "**Chisholm '72: Unbought & Unbossed**" (2004) – See story on page 3. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 7: "**A Charlie Brown Valentine**" (2002) – Unrequited love for Peanuts gang. San Carlos, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 12: "**The Book of Pooh: A Valentine for Eeyore**" (2001) – One of Disney's Winnie the Pooh series. San Carlos, 10 a.m.
- Feb. 14: "**Code 46**" (2003) – Love story set in an eerily possible near-future. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 19: "**Babe**" (1995) – Piglet won as a raffle prize is raised by a sheepdog. San Carlos, 10 a.m.
- Feb. 20: "**The Door in the Floor**" (2004) – Film chronicles one summer in the lives of children's book author and his wife. Based on John Irving's novel "A Window for One Year." Central Library, 2 p.m.
- Feb. 23: "**Intimate Strangers**" (2004) – Woman seeking psychiatric help mistakes tax attorney for doctor. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 25: "**Goonies**" (1985) – Kids stumble onto evidence of pirate's treasure. Mission Valley, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 26: "**The Rugrats Movie**" (1998) – Pint-sized heroes on a thrilling, comic adventure. San Carlos, 10 a.m.
- Feb. 28: "**Seventh Voyage of Sinbad**" (1958) – Sinbad encounters cavalcade of mythological creatures. Tierrasanta, 6:10 p.m.
- Feb. 28: "**Bright Young Things**" (2003) – Young aristocrats followed by tabloid press. Adapted from novel "Vile Bodies" by Evelyn Waugh. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 28: "**Winnie the Pooh and the Blustery Day**" (1968) – Disney animated film from A.A. Milne book. San Carlos, 7 p.m.

Children Can Create Their Own Books

Children in grades 3-12 can try their hand at creating their own books at the Linda Vista Branch, 2160 Ulric St. The workshop is hosted by San Diego Book Arts. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The workshop is limited to 30 students. Call the library at 858-573-1399 to pre-register.



Libraries Closed Feb. 21 for Presidents' Day

All locations of the City of San Diego Public Library will be closed on Monday, Feb. 21, in observance of Presidents' Day. Book drops will be open at all libraries as a convenience to the public.

Black History Month Schedule of Events at Library

Throughout February

Black Superheroes/Black Supervillians – A fun, historical exhibit geared toward children and teens about African-American comic book heroes and villains. In the Children's Area of the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch, 5148 Market St. 619-527-3405.

Wednesday, Feb. 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Book Discussion Series:

"Dynamic: The Black Experience in America" – A three-book discussion series will begin with "Uncle Tom's Children" by Richard Wright. Camille Forbes, Ph.D., a professor of African American literature at UCSD, will facilitate the free discussions. Central Library, 820 E St. 619-236-5800.



Sunday, Feb. 6 at 2 p.m.

Film Forum: "Ralph Ellison: An American Journey" –

The first documentary about one of the most gifted and intellectually provocative authors of modern American literature. The film presents the first scenes ever filmed from Ellison's landmark novel, "Invisible Man." America's foremost cultural critics discuss Ellison's role as a central figure in contemporary debates over art, politics, race and nationhood. The documentary explores the many ways one of our most important writers and thinkers grappled with the question: "What does it mean to be an American?" Camille Forbes, Ph.D., an assistant professor of African-American literature and culture at UCSD, will facilitate a discussion after the film. Central Library, 820 E St. 619-236-5800.

Monday, Feb. 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Film Forum: "Chisholm '72: Unbought & Unbossed"

– A documentary about the 1972 presidential campaign of Shirley Chisholm, a determined, rather prim and unapologetically liberal black woman with a powerful message: Exercise the full measure of your citizenship and vote. The first black woman elected to Congress, Chisholm championed the causes of the poor, the young, minorities, gays, women and other marginalized Americans. She saw the presidential race itself as an opportunity to draw people to politics who traditionally did not participate. She died at the age of 80 on Jan. 1, 2005. Carole Kennedy, Ph.D., professor in political science at SDSU, will facilitate a discussion after the presentation. Central Library, 820 E St. 619-236-5800.

Thursday, Feb. 10 at 10:30 a.m.

WING - African Drumming – A master conga drummer

and percussionist will perform African and American songs, concluding the performance with an exciting interactive light show. Advance registration required: Please call 619-531-1539. Point Loma/Hervey Branch, 3701 Voltaire St.

Friday, Feb. 11 at 10:30 a.m.

Storytellers Reiko Obata and Steven Gregory will perform. Group reservations required and will be accepted beginning Jan. 25. Call 619-641-6100 to reserve. Please note: one group of 25 may reserve per call. City Heights/Weingart Branch, 3795 Fairmount Ave. 619-641-6100.

Wednesday, Feb. 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Book Discussion Series: "Dynamic: The Black Experience in America"

– A three-book discussion series will continue with "Maud Martha" by Gwendolyn Brooks. Camille Forbes, Ph.D., a professor of African American literature at UCSD, will facilitate the free discussion. Central Library, 820 E St. 619-236-5800.



Wednesday, Feb. 16 at 4 p.m.

Dr. Annjennette S. McFarlin, executive director of the Black Storytellers of San Diego, will read African-American folk tales during the library's Family Fun Time. The Storytellers preserve the African diaspora oral tradition. Carmel Valley Branch, 3919 Townsgate Drive. 858-552-1668.

Thursday, Feb. 19 at 2 p.m.

WING - African Drumming – A master conga drummer and percussionist will perform African and American songs. Mission Valley Branch, 2123 Fenton Parkway. 858-573-5007.

Wednesday, Feb. 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Evolution of Black Superheroes in the Comics – Youth Services Librarian Kim Schmidt will lead a discussion about the history of African-American superheroes in comics. Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch, 5148 Market St. 619-527-3405.



Wednesday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Book Discussion Series: "Dynamic: The Black Experience in America"

– A three-book discussion series will conclude with "Blues for Mister Charlie" by James Baldwin. Camille Forbes, a professor of African American literature at UCSD, will facilitate the free discussion. Central Library, 820 E St. 619-236-5800.



Straw Pyrography Artwork Draws Upon Ancient Practices

The straw artwork of James Yan is now on display at the Rancho Peñasquitos Branch Library through February. The art, which once was an item found only in ancient royal palace, has now been rediscovered by contemporary artists and crafters. The pyrograph is made of wheat straw with velvet lining.

The straw is processed deeply to enhance its quality while retaining its inherent luster. The main procedures include steaming, bleaching, cleaving, scraping, ironing and blanching to prepare the materials. Then electric soldering iron is used to cauterize the straw based on a design. Then consummate skills are needed to carve, patch and encase. Taking advantage of its original luster and unique texture, rich shades of colors are represented by exquisite techniques of heating and cautery. Thus the artists bring their creative talent into maximum play, and some greatest artworks are created with this inexhaustible natural material.

Born in China, Yan was an engineer for 20 years before making the United States his home in early 1990s. Art and science complement each other in Yan's artwork, which communicate the artist's appreciation of nature and his interpretation of beauty and mysteries. The Rancho Peñasquitos Branch is located at 13330 Salmon River Road. For information, call the library at 858-538-8159.

Local Authors' Books on Display

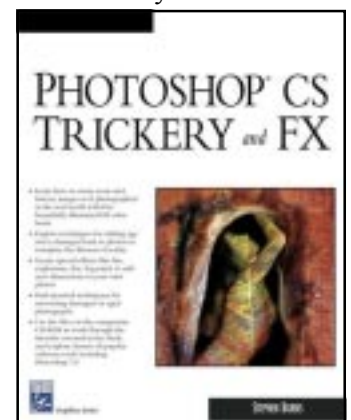
Hundreds of books published in 2004 by local San Diego authors is now on display at the Central Library through February as part of the Library's 39th annual Local Authors Exhibit. Each year the Library celebrates local writers with a special free exhibit showcasing their literary talents. Book range from novels to history books and travel guides to children's books. The Central Library is located at 820 E St., in downtown San Diego. Call the library at 619-236-5800 for more information

Photoshop Expert to Discuss How to Master the Software

Stephen Burns will discuss how to master Photoshop CS software at the Mission Valley Branch Library on Feb. 16 from 7 to 9 p.m. Burns is author of "Photoshop CS Trickery and FX" and has been a photographer for more than 25 years. He is currently president of the San Diego Photoshop User Group.

Digital art is often thought to be as easy as a few button clicks on the computer but in reality, digital artists need to have just as much artistic talent as traditional artists. To truly master the digital realm, you need to master your software (in this case Photoshop CS), and be fluent in the "digital language" it provides. This allows you to intuitively apply the artistic principles and techniques needed to create dynamic images. The goal of Burns' book is to teach you how to blend technical skill with artistic talent through the creation of a variety of interesting and fun images.

The Mission Valley Branch is located at 2123 Fenton Parkway. The event is sponsored by the La Jolla Art Association. For more information about the event, call the library at 858-573-5007.



Announcing the Carnegie Society

The Library has announced an opportunity for you to ensure the future of your library by becoming a member of The Carnegie Society. In its inaugural year, The Carnegie Society will honor community-minded individuals who support the library by making a planned gift through their will, trust, gift annuity, life insurance, pooled income fund or any other estate planning method. Nearly 7 million visitors utilize the San Diego Public Library each year.

Society members will ensure that the Library has all the resources it needs to serve the public now and in the future. Your gift will not only make you a partner in shaping the future of your library, but could provide you with great tax and financial benefits. For more information, contact Jay Hill at 619-236-5861 or jayhill@sandiego.gov.

Even More Great Events and Programs!

For the very latest information about Library events, exhibits, activities and other programs, visit your local library or check out the Library on the City's web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>.

